

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please cancel claims 20, 27 and 39 amend claims 13, 19, 26, 30, and 33 as follows:

1-12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A composition for delivery of a polynucleotide to a cell comprising: the polynucleotide and a cationic polyvinylether random copolymer, wherein the polyvinylether random copolymer comprises cationic monomeric units and alkyl or aryl monomeric units and is capable of lysing red blood cells.

14. (original) The composition of claim 13 wherein the polynucleotide is associated with the polyvinylether via an electrostatic interaction.

15. (currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein the polynucleotide is associated with the polyvinylether via labile maleamate covalent linkage.

16. (original) The composition of claim 15 wherein the polynucleotide is associated with the polyvinylether via a labile covalent linkage.

17-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A composition for delivery of a polynucleotide to a cell comprising: the polynucleotide, a cationic polymer, and an anionic reversibly modified polyvinylether random copolymer wherein the anionic reversibly modified polyvinylether random copolymer comprises hydrophobic monomeric units and ~~maleic anhydride~~ 2-propionic-3-methylmaleic anhydride modified amine-containing monomeric units wherein:

- a) the modified polyvinylether random copolymer is not membrane active and
- b) cleavage of the ~~maleic anhydride~~ 2-propionic-3-methylmaleic anhydride groups from the amine-containing monomeric units results in an unmodified polyvinylether random copolymer that is membrane active and capable of lysing red blood cells.

20-21. (canceled)

22. (original) The composition of claim 13 wherein the polynucleotide is selected from the list consisting of: DNA, plasmid DNA, linear DNA, dsDNA, ssDNA, RNA, expression cassette, antisense oligonucleotide, siRNA, microRNA, RNA expression cassette, ribozyme, dsRNA, and synthetic polynucleotides.

23. (original) The composition of claim 22 wherein the polynucleotide expresses a protein.

24. (original) The composition of claim 22 wherein the polynucleotide expresses an RNA.

25. (original) The composition of claim 22 wherein the polynucleotide inhibits expression of a gene in the cell.
26. (currently amended) The composition of claim 13 wherein [[the]] amines on the polyvinylether random copolymer [[is]] are reversibly modified to carboxyls to convert the polyvinylether random copolymer to a labile polyanion.
- 27-29. (canceled)
30. (currently amended) The composition of claim 26 wherein the polynucleotide is covalently linked to the reversibly modified polyvinylether random copolymer via a labile maleamate bond.
- 31-32. (canceled)
33. (currently amended) The composition of claim [[31]] 13 wherein the cationic monomeric units consist of amine-containing monomeric units.
34. (previously presented) The composition of claim 13 wherein the polyvinylether random copolymer comprises cationic monomeric units and at least two classes of alkyl or aryl monomeric units.
35. (canceled)
36. (previously presented) The composition of claim 34 wherein the cationic monomeric units consist of amine-containing monomeric units.
37. (previously presented) The composition of claim 36 wherein the alkyl monomeric units contain alkyl groups selected from the group consisting of: ethyl, propyl, butyl, dodecyl, and octadecyl.
- 38-40. (canceled)